



HALMA  
THE EUROPEAN NETWORK  
OF LITERARY CENTRES

*www.halma-network.eu*

Berlin, Dec 17th 2008

Press Release

## More Exchange for European Writers

### HALMA network admits new members and extends grant programme

The European network HALMA has admitted five new literary centres during the last members' meeting in Berlin. The **Alte Schmiede** (Austria), the **Santa Maddalena Foundation** (Italy), **Ty Newydd** (Wales) the **Tyrone Guthrie Centre** (Ireland), and the **Schloss Leuk Foundation** (Switzerland) are now part of the network.

Now HALMA unites 27 literary institutions throughout Europe – as many members as the European Union. Halma represents the confluence of European literatures and the cultural exchange between individual regions of the continent.

Accordingly, the **grant programme for writers** will be extended considerably. For the first time in 2008, authors were able to travel to European partner countries via HALMA. These grants were always connected with translations to other languages and public readings. This will soon be possible for authors from even more countries. Grants for **Danish, Dutch** and **Welsh writers** will soon be added, which are made possible by the Danish Arts Council, the Dutch Fonds voor de Letteren and the Wales Literature Exchange.

From 2009 on, there will also be a **new grant programme for translators**, which is made possible by the Robert Bosch Foundation.

It would be great if you included these news in your reporting.

If desired, pictures of the last HALMA meeting can be provided, particularly of the panel discussion on "The role of literature in a merging Europe" with **Max Maldacker** (Federal Foreign Office), **Ilma Rakusa** (author) and **Krzysztof Czyzewski** (president of the HALMA-network). The event took place on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008 at the Literary Colloquium Berlin.

Sincerely,

Sonja Schillings

HALMA - the European network of literary centres  
Am Sandwerder 5  
D-14109 Berlin  
presse@halma-network.eu  
www.halma-network.eu  
Tel. ++49 (0)30 816 99 615